



Archaeology News



- *from the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA)*

April 2011

- **Archaeological field schools-** As archaeological field school time approaches, please remember, per 312 IAC 22-2-3 (2), that an application to conduct a scientific investigation under Indiana Code 14-21-1 shall be filed at least 30 days before the proposed commencement of the project. In addition, if you conducted a field school project last season, please make sure that all of the conditions of your approved plan for that project have been met. This would include the submission of the required report of the investigations, as well as the entry of the relevant site forms into SHAARD. Don't hesitate to let the DHPA archaeologists know if you have any questions.
- **Indiana Master Naturalist program-** On Wednesday April 20, 2011, DHPA archaeologist Cathy Carson will be the presenter for the archaeology class portion of the Indiana Master Naturalist Program being held at the Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge near Seymour, IN. Cathy is a certified Indiana Master Naturalist, and Indiana is one of only a few states in the country that offer an Archaeology portion to the Master Naturalist Program. To learn more about the Master Naturalist program, go to <http://www.in.gov/dnr/masternaturalist/student.html>. To read more about archaeology in Master Naturalist programs, go to <http://www.saa.org/publicftp/PUBLIC/resources/MasterNaturalists.html>.
- **DHPA Award-** One of the Archaeology Team's own, archaeologist Cathy Draeger-Williams, has been chosen as the 2010 Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology *Employee of the Year*. Division Director Dr. James Glass stated that "during the past year she has provided particular leadership for the division and the department in coordinating the Cultural Resources area at the Hoosier Outdoor Experience and gave additional time to organizing and staffing the division tent." Several staff nominated her also for her effort to work with lots of different types of people and her courtesy to the public. Please join us in congratulating Cathy.



- **Outreach in Bedford-** On Saturday April 2, 2011, DHPA archaeologist Cathy Carson will give an archaeology presentation to the Lawrence County Rock and Gem Club in Bedford, IN. Cathy's program will concentrate on stone tool technology (both chipped stone and ground stone) and the role that rocks play and their importance to prehistoric cultures.
- **Archaeological site of the month-** The William Conner House Site has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places since 1980. The house, built in 1823, played a central key role in the early history of Hamilton County, being used as a meeting house for the County Commissioners and a Circuit Court, as well as a post office. William Conner himself was influential in the early founding and development of Hamilton County. By 1871, the house had passed out of the hands of the Conner family and by the early 1900s had become seriously deteriorated. Eli Lilly purchased the house in 1934 in order to save and restore the home. This was one of the earliest attempts at historic preservation in the state.

In 1990, archaeologists from the Ball State University Archaeological Resources Management Services conducted archaeological investigations at the William Conner House Site (12H608) in order to aid proposed plans for additional restoration work to the house. These investigations found substantial undisturbed 19th-century remains in the house yard and the cultural features discovered included a cobble walk, a small brick pad of undetermined function, post holes and/or post molds, a small refuse-filled pit, and clusters of artifacts (see http://www.gbl.indiana.edu/abstracts/91/huser_91.html).

More recently, in 2008 archaeologists from Accidental Discoveries, LLC conducted Phase II archaeological testing and monitoring around the house prior to a planned water abatement project to improve the drainage. These investigations at 12Hr608 confirmed the presence of intact 19th century archaeological deposits and cultural features, one of which may have been a privy, in the undisturbed portions of the site.

The William Conner House Site is currently part of the Conner Prairie Interactive History Park, which had its beginnings in 1964 when Eli Lilly transferred ownership of the property to Earlham College. Today, the park includes the Conner Homestead, the 1836 Prairietown, a Native American Lenape Camp, and 1859 hot air balloon voyage. An 1863 Civil War Journey will open at the park in 2011. To learn more about William Conner and his home, and about Conner Prairie, go to:

<http://www.connerprairie.org/Learn-And-Do/Indiana-History/America-1800-1860/William-Conner.aspx>

<http://www.connerprairie.org/Learn-And-Do/Indiana-History/Conner-Prairie-History/Conner-Estate-History.aspx>

<http://www.connerprairie.org/Learn-And-Do/Indiana-History/Conner-Prairie-History/Conner-Prairie-Farm.aspx>

<http://www.connerprairie.org/Learn-And-Do/Indiana-History/Conner-Prairie-History/Conner-Prairie-History.aspx>

<http://www.connerprairie.org/Learn-And-Do/Indiana-History/Artifacts-And-Collections/Furnishing-The-Conner-House.aspx>

<http://www.connerprairie.org>

http://www.gbl.indiana.edu/abstracts/91/huser_91.html

- **Outreach to Girl Scouts-** On Saturday April 30, 2011, DHPA archaeologist Cathy Carson will join staff members from Hamilton County Parks and Recreation to assist with an archaeology workshop for area Girl Scouts. The program will be held at the Taylor Center of Natural History at Strawtown-Koteewi Park near Noblesville.

This information is distributed via email by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA). This is meant to provide information on current archaeological topics and issues in which the DHPA is involved. An archive of past *Archaeology News* issues is available at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/archeonwsltr.html> . If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our office at 317/232-1646. Logo for Indiana Master Naturalist program from <http://www.in.gov/dnr/masternaturalist/>. Information regarding 12H608 compiled by Cathy Carson.



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Indiana Archaeology Month (September) webpage-
www.IN.gov/dnr/historic/archeomonth.html

Compiled and written by Amy Johnson, Senior Archaeologist and Archaeology Outreach Coordinator (April 2011).

Mission Statement: *The Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology promotes the conservation of Indiana's cultural resources through public education efforts, financial incentives including several grant and tax credit programs, and the administration of state and federally mandated legislation.*

Pieces of the past...



THE INDIANA DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHAEOLOGY:

- Provides protection and preservation of Indiana's finite and fragile archaeological resources
- Implements the state law providing protection for archaeological sites and human remains
- Reviews, evaluates and comments upon projects that may affect archaeological resources
- Maintains standards and guidelines for archaeology in Indiana and provides technical assistance
- Promotes public education about the science through publications, training and presentations
- Offers grant funds for archaeological projects
- Maintains the repository of archaeological records and state site database